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EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF BODIES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Report of the Secretary-General

1. Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/20 of 1 March 1991, in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to report on the comments of the treaty bodies, other than the Human Rights Committee, concerning the study on possible long-term approaches to enhancing the effective operation of existing and prospective bodies established under United Nations human rights instruments (A/44/668), the Secretary-General wishes to bring the following information to the attention of the Commission.

2. The Committee against Torture, at its fourth session, noted with interest the comprehensive information in the study regarding the general problems encountered by treaty bodies under international human rights instruments as well as the proposed solutions and relevant long-term perspectives.

3. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, at its thirty-eighth session, warmly endorsed the study in general. Commenting on the conclusions and recommendations of the study, the Committee indicated that some of the recommendations would be followed in connection with the consideration of State party reports, while others were already being observed by the Committee in practice. Other conclusions and recommendations would also be considered to the extent they were relevant to the specific mandate and practice of the Committee.

4. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights suggested, at its sixth session, that the study, which had been prepared in 1989, should be updated and revised and presented to the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993.

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